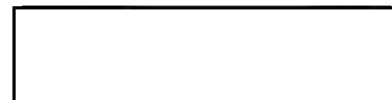




**National
Foreign
Assessment
Center**

Secret



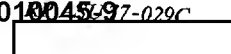
HR

USSR Weekly Review

Supplement
13 October 1977

Secret

25X1



Copy

228

25X1

Approved For Release 2004/07/16 : CIA-RDP79T00912A000100010045-9

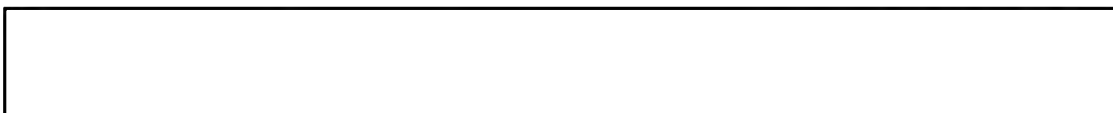
Approved For Release 2004/07/16 : CIA-RDP79T00912A000100010045-9

USSR WEEKLY REVIEW
SUPPLEMENT

13 October 1977

CONTENTS

USSR: Cement Imports From North Korea
Terminated 1



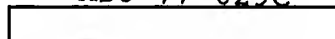
25X1

Note: As a result of a reorganization, effective 11 October 1977, intelligence publications formerly issued by the Directorate of Intelligence and by the National Intelligence Officers are now being issued by the National Foreign Assessment Center. Publication covers and titles have been adjusted to reflect this change. This publication was formerly titled *The USSR Regional and Political Analysis*.



25X1

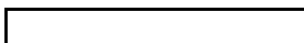
RP ASU 77-029C



13 October 1977

25X1

25X1



25X1

25X1

USSR: Cement Imports from North Korea Terminated

25X1

North Korea apparently has cut off shipment of cement to the Soviet Far East, causing local delays in Soviet construction activity and creating the potential for further economic disruptions.

25X1

Despite the position of the USSR as the world's largest cement producer and exporter, the Soviet Far East traditionally has consumed more cement than it has produced. With the inordinately high cost of construction in the Far East and the proximity of North Korea, Moscow has preferred to import cement from North Korea than construct major cement plants in the Far East. Meanwhile, the cement producing regions in the European USSR have exported their excess to Eastern Europe and the LDCs.

The Korean cutoff occurs at a time when the Soviet cement industry has already fallen behind its annual production goal and will have difficulty making up this traditional deficit. Last year North Korean cement exports were cut in half, and gross Soviet cement exports dropped by 13 percent. The Korean action this year may cause additional problems for the Soviet economy. First, construction in the Far East and elsewhere will be delayed. Second, cement exports will be limited if cement produced in the western USSR is diverted to the Far East (imports from North Korea were 15 percent of total Soviet cement exports in 1975). Third, longer shipping distances will increase cement losses, inflate costs, and place a further burden on the transportation network. Finally, North Korean cement has represented an indirect energy import by the Soviet Union. Thus, an effort to boost domestic production of this energy-intensive product to make up for the Korean cutoff will raise the demand for energy at a time when all possible conservation measures are being investigated.

25X1

RP ASU 77-029C

13 October 1977

25X1

25X1

25X1

Approved For Release 2004/07/16 : CIA-RDP79T00912A000100010045-9

Approved For Release 2004/07/16 : CIA-RDP79T00912A000100010045-9

25X1

Secret **Approved For Release 2004/07/16 : CIA-RDP79T00912A000100010045-9**

Secret

Approved For Release 2004/07/16 : CIA-RDP79T00912A000100010045-9